

SCOUT
COMICS

1

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ONE-SHOT

Mature Readers

JON CLARK'S

SNAPS





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COMICS**

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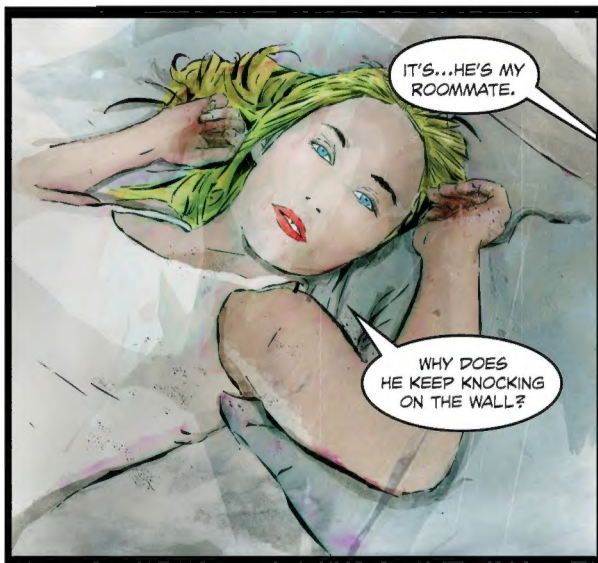
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SIGHS

I'M
GOING TO KILL
HIM.
WHY
DO I EVEN
LET HIM LIVE
HERE?
I HAVE
NO IDEA...
...WELL,
I'M DONE
NOW.



DONE!

THIS IS
MY HOUSE.



I--!

OLIVER!
JESUS!



DUDE,
WHAT'S ALL THIS
POUNDING-ON-MY-
DOOR SHIT?

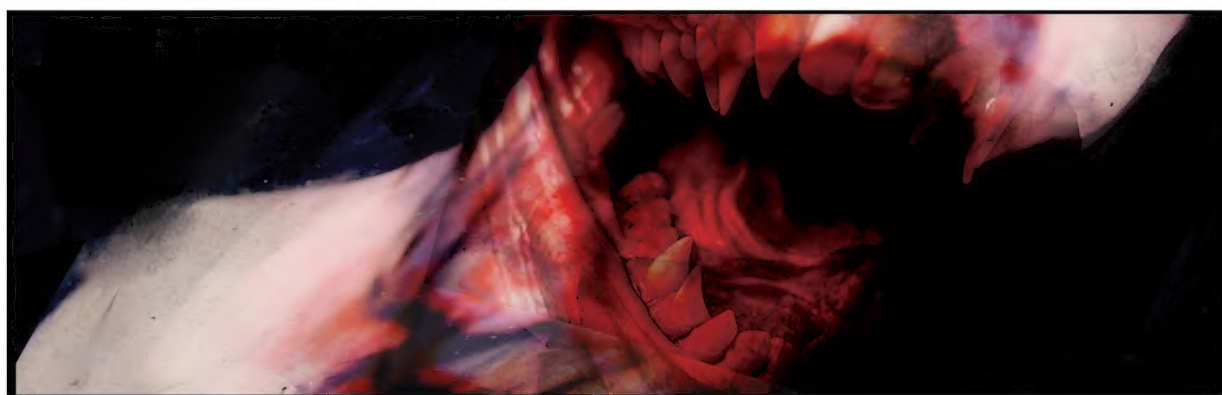


WE HAVE
A DEAL, MAN!
IF YOU'RE GONNA
STAY HERE,
YOU HAVETA
RESPECT MY
SPACE.

KEITH...

...COME IN.







WHAT
THE HELL IS
THAT?!



THIS IS...
TH-THAT'S...REALLY
DISTURBING, OLIVER.
WOW.
SO--HOW'D
YOU DO IT? SPECIAL
EFFECTS?

NO.
NO.



YESTERDAY,
I WAS WALKING
AROUND IN THAT
PARK NEAR MY
OFFICE...

...YOU
KNOW HOW
WHEN I'M ON MY
LUNCH BREAKS
I LIKE TO TAKE
PHOTOS...



"IT WAS WINDY, AND THERE
WERE A LOT OF LEAVES AND
LOOSE DIRT KICKING UP.,,

"...FLOATING,
WHIPPING
ABOUT.,,

"SOME OF IT REALLY
BEAUTIFUL.



"I FOLLOWED THIS ORANGE
HAMBURGER WRAPPER AS IT
FLITTED ABOUT IN THE WIND
LIKE A BIRD.

"I TOOK SHOT AFTER
SHOT OF IT.

CLICK



"YOU KNOW HOW IT IS AT
THE PARK, LOTS OF
HOMELESS PEOPLE; LIVING
IN ABANDONED CARS.

"AS I PANNED THE
CAMERA OVER, TRYING
TO FOLLOW THE
WRAPPER, I SAW..."

CLICK
CLICK



ⒺGASPⒺ



THAT,
INSIDE THE
TRUCK.



"WHAT I'D
SEEN
STARTLED ME
SO MUCH
THAT I HAD
STOPPED
LOOKING
THROUGH THE
VIEWFINDER.



"BUT TO MY NAKED EYE,
NOTHING WAS THERE,
JUST DUST, THE TRUCK,
AND THE HOMELESS MAN.



BUT IT WAS
THERE AGAIN WHEN
I LOOKED BACK
THROUGH THE
LENS.

WAIT, SO WHAT
YOU'RE TELLING ME
IS THAT YOU SAW
A GHOST?

THAT
THIS--IS A
GHOST?

MAYBE...
OR MAYBE NOT
A GHOST.

COME ON,
YOU CREATED THIS ON
A COMPUTER, OR IT'S
SOMEONE DRESSED
UP. I MEAN IT'S...IT
IS HORRIFYING!



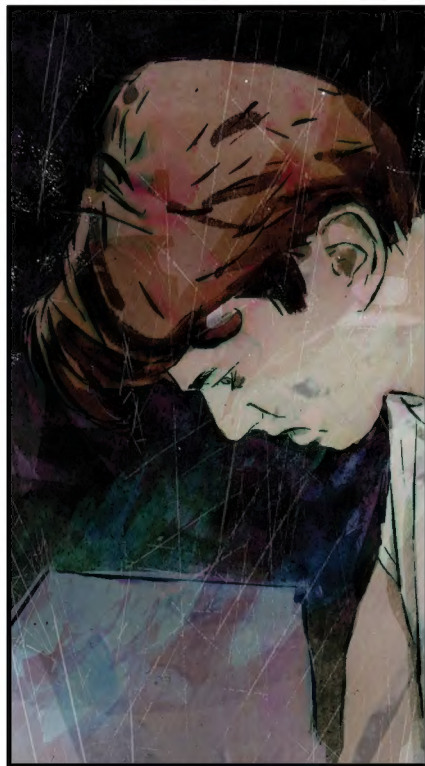
WHAT YOU DON'T
KNOW ABOUT--WHAT
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN
YET--IS THE MAN IN
THE TRUCK.



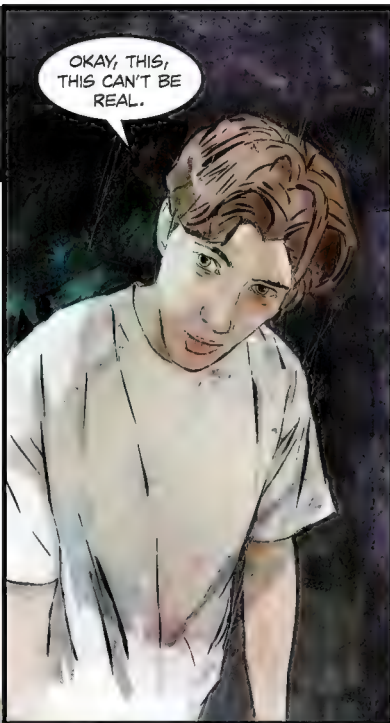
THE
HOMELESS
MAN.



YOU SEE,
I KEPT TAKING
PICTURES.







OKAY, THIS, THIS CAN'T BE REAL.



THE MAN DIED. RIGHT THERE, THRASHING AROUND.

SEE, IT'S THERE. IT'S THERE IN THE PICTURES-- I SAW IT ALL THROUGH MY LENS, BUT...
...WHEN I LOOKED OUT FROM BEHIND THE CAMERA...



AND HIS CHEST?

NOT A SCRATCH.



"I KINDA FREAKED OUT AND USED THE CAMERA TO LOOK AROUND ME, YOU KNOW..."

"...BUT THERE WAS NO SIGN OF IT, SO I CALLED 911.

"WHAT ELSE COULD I DO?"

"THEY SENT AN AMBULANCE.



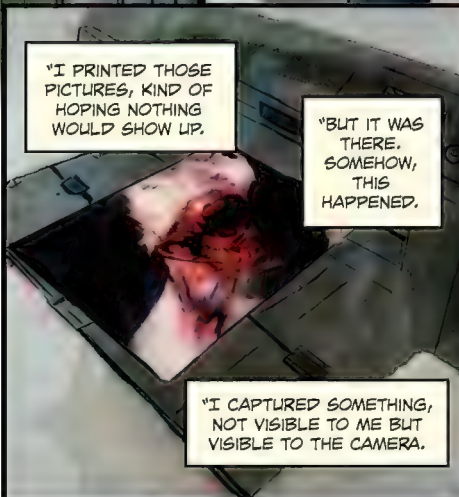
"THE PARAMEDICS SAID HE DIED OF A HEART ATTACK.

"THEY SAID IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.

"AFTER THAT, I CAME STRAIGHT HOME."



BUT I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.



"I PRINTED THOSE PICTURES, KIND OF HOPING NOTHING WOULD SHOW UP.

"BUT IT WAS THERE. SOMEHOW, THIS HAPPENED.

"I CAPTURED SOMETHING, NOT VISIBLE TO ME BUT VISIBLE TO THE CAMERA.



"SOMETHING NO ONE ANYWHERE HAS EVER SEEN BEFORE.



"I COULDN'T STOP
THINKING ABOUT IT.

"I WONDERED--IS THIS
GOING ON ALL THE TIME?"

"ALL AROUND US?"

"AND COULD IT HAPPEN
AGAIN? IF SO, COULD
I CAPTURE IT AGAIN?"

"DID I EVEN WANT TO?"

"I BROKE IT
ALL DOWN.

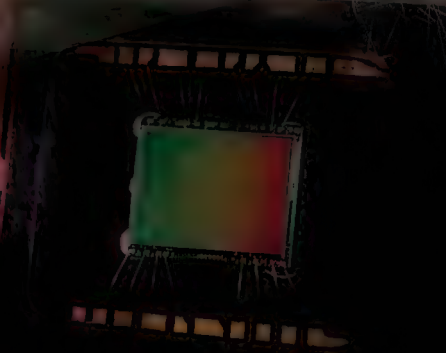
"BEING A PHOTOGRAPHER, I KNOW
CAMERAS. THIS ONE WAS DIGITAL,
DSLR--WITH BOTH PHOTO AND VIDEO
CAPABILITIES. STANDARD BRAND.
NOTHING SPECIAL.

"SO WHAT WAS
DIFFERENT IN THAT
MOMENT? THE
LIGHT? THE WIND
AND THE LIGHT?"

"I HAVE FILTERS AND FILTER HOLDERS.
I KNOW HOW TO RECREATE THAT LIGHT.
I KNOW HOW TO GET DUST AND GRIME
ON THE LENS JUST THE WAY IT WAS OUT
THERE IN THE PARK.

"SO I DID..."

"...BUT THEN WHAT?"



YOU FIND
A HEART ATTACK,
RIGHT?

BUT
WHERE DO YOU
GO TO SEE THAT
KIND OF THING?
A HEART ATTACK
IN ACTION?

"WELL, I WENT TO THE
FIRST PLACE THAT I COULD THINK
OF--A RETIREMENT HOME.

"I PARKED ACROSS THE
STREET, SET UP THE
CAMERA...AND WAITED.

"THERE WAS NO
GUARANTEE THAT
SOMEONE WAS
GOING TO DIE
THAT DAY,
ESPECIALLY FROM
A HEART ATTACK.

"BUT I GUESS
I GOT LUCKY. OR
RATHER, UNLUCKY.
BECAUSE
SOMEONE DID.

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

"BUT THE CAMERA GOT
NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL.

"MAYBE I WASN'T CLOSE
ENOUGH. WHO KNOWS?

"IT COULD HAVE BEEN ANY
NUMBER OF THINGS.

"I DIDN'T KNOW
WHERE TO GO
AFTER THAT. MAYBE
A HOSPITAL, LIKE
YOURS."

OR MAYBE
THIS WAS ALL JUST
A ONE-TIME THING?
A FLUKE.



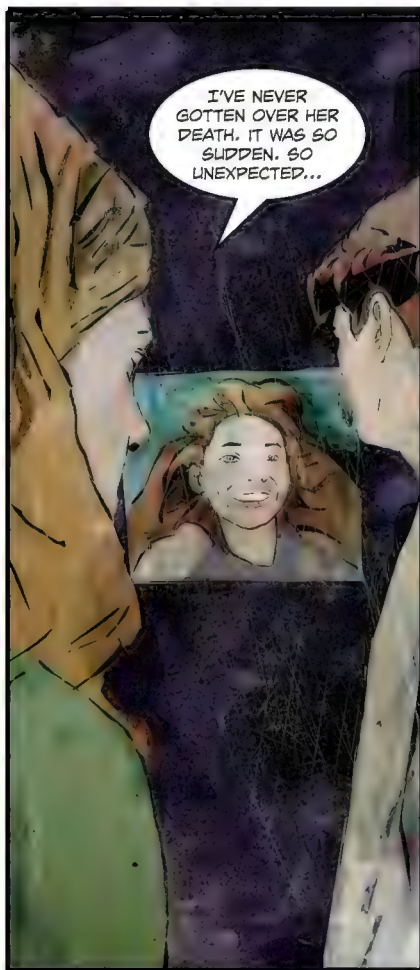
"I REVIEWED ALL THE EARLY
PICTURES TO MAKE SURE I HAD THE
HUE RIGHT. THEN, THE SATURATION.

"I KEPT LOOKING AT
IT. WHICH IS VERY
DIFFICULT TO DO.

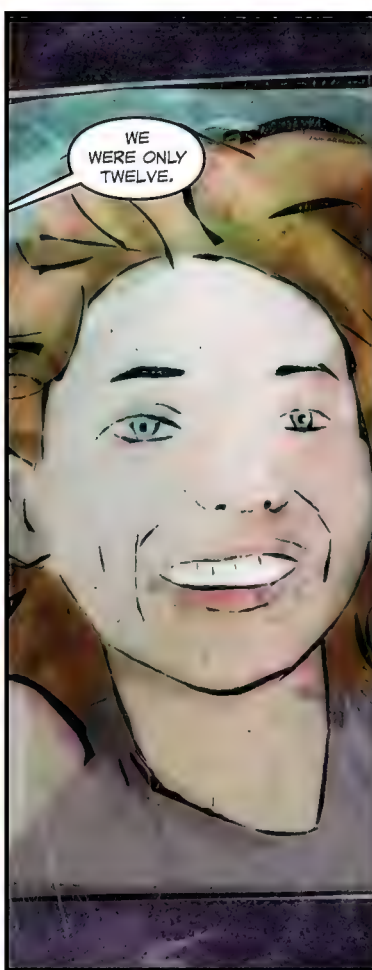
"WORSE IS WHEN YOU STOP
LOOKING, AND IT'S STILL
THERE, BEHIND YOUR EYELIDS."

I BECAME
OBSESSED.
I THINK YOU
CAN GUESS
WHY.

SCARLET.



I'VE NEVER
GOTTEN OVER HER
DEATH. IT WAS SO
SUDDEN, SO
UNEXPECTED...



WE
WERE ONLY
TWELVE.



AND
WITH THIS,
THIS MEANS THAT
THERE'S SOMETHING
ELSE OUT THERE.
SOMETHING
MORE,

SO...I DIDN'T
GIVE UP. I COULDN'T.
I TOLD MYSELF "THE
ANSWER IS RIGHT HERE. IT'S
JUST THAT I'M MISSING
SOME IMPORTANT
ASPECT
OF THIS."

HAD TO
BE.



I STARTED
THINKING THAT
I HAD EVERYTHING
RIGHT ON THIS SIDE. BUT
MAYBE NOT WHAT WAS
NEEDED ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE
CAMERA.

THE
OTHER
SIDE?



YES, I THOUGHT
TO MYSELF, MAYBE
THERE'S A REASON IT
WENT AFTER THAT MAN
IN PARTICULAR.

A REASON
I CAUGHT THIS ON
MY CAMERA. MAYBE,
MAYBE THIS THING
ISN'T HERE TO DO
GOOD WORK.

"GOOD"
WORK?



THAT
THING DOESN'T
LOOK TO BE USHERING
THAT GUY UP
INTO A HAPPY PLACE,
DOES IT?



MEANING
WHAT? YOU
THINK IT'S TAKING
THAT MAN TO
HELL?



SSIGH
ALL RIGHT,
OLIVER. YOU
HAD ME
THERE FOR A
WHILE...



...BUT IF
THERE'S A
HELL, IT'S
OTHER
PEOPLE,
AND--

STOP!
THE TRUTH
IS, KEITH...

...AFTER
THE RETIREMENT
HOME DIDN'T WORK
OUT, I THOUGHT
A HOSPITAL WOULD
BE A BETTER
IDEA.



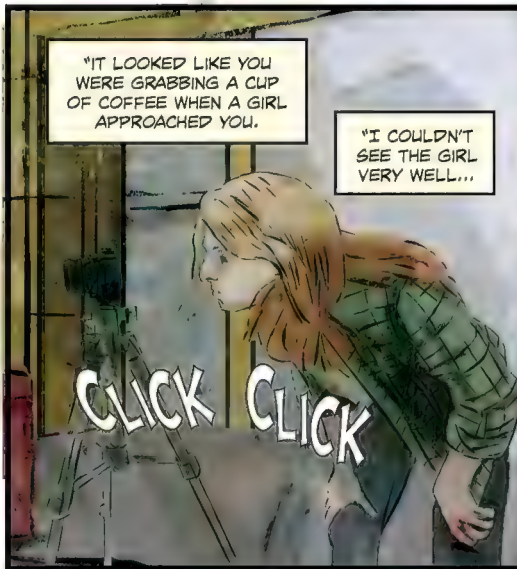
I THOUGHT
OF YOURS BECAUSE IT
HAS THAT EMERGENCY
ROOM OUT IN THE OPEN.
I COULD PARK ACROSS THE
STREET AND NOT DRAW
ANY ATTENTION.



"AFTER A FEW HOURS
OF NOTHING, I DECIDED
TO GIVE YOU A CALL..."



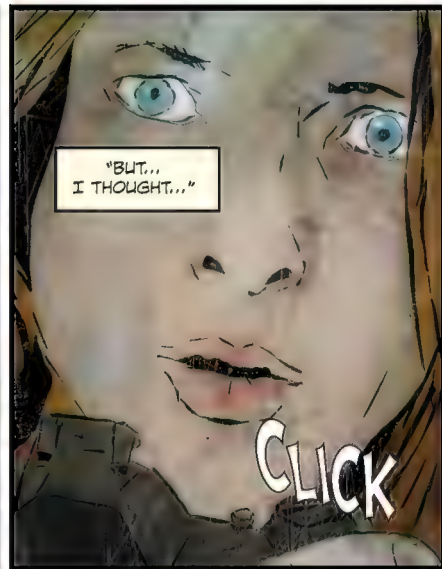
"BUT RIGHT
THEN, YOU
WALKED OUT."



"IT LOOKED LIKE YOU
WERE GRABBING A CLIP
OF COFFEE WHEN A GIRL
APPROACHED YOU."

"I COULDN'T
SEE THE GIRL
VERY WELL..."

CLICK CLICK

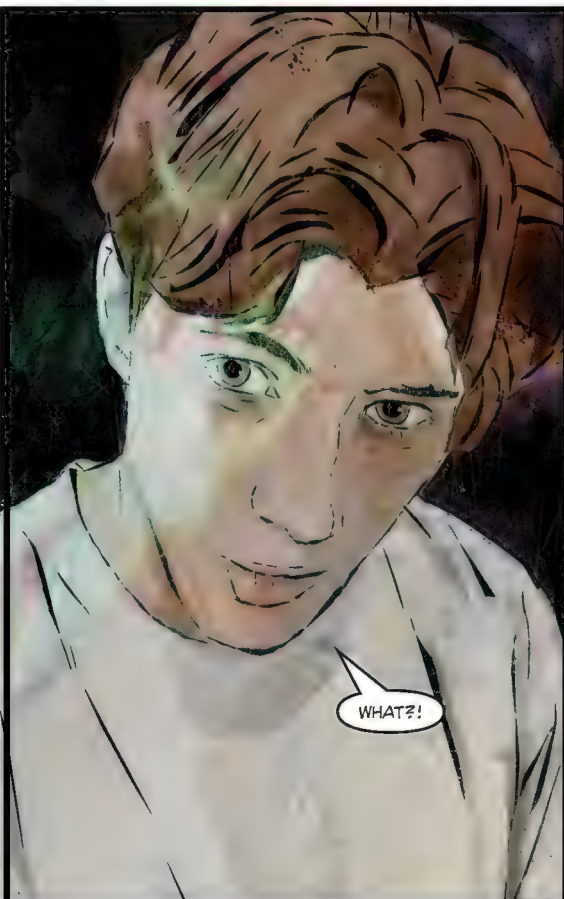


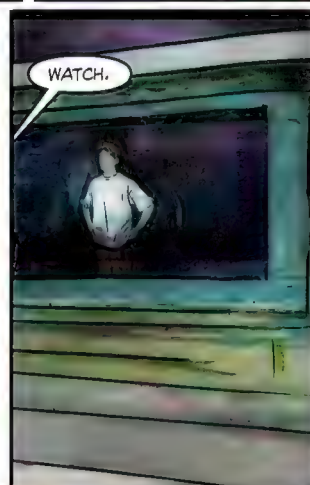
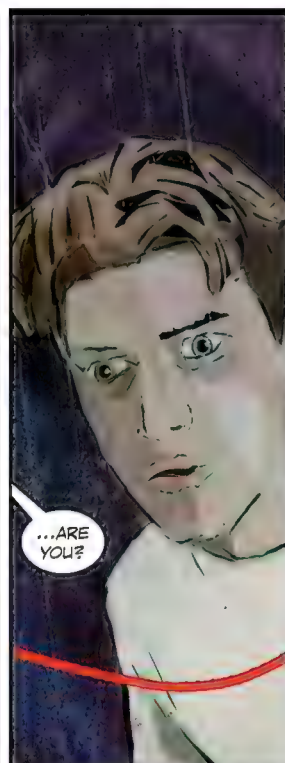
"BUT...
I THOUGHT..."

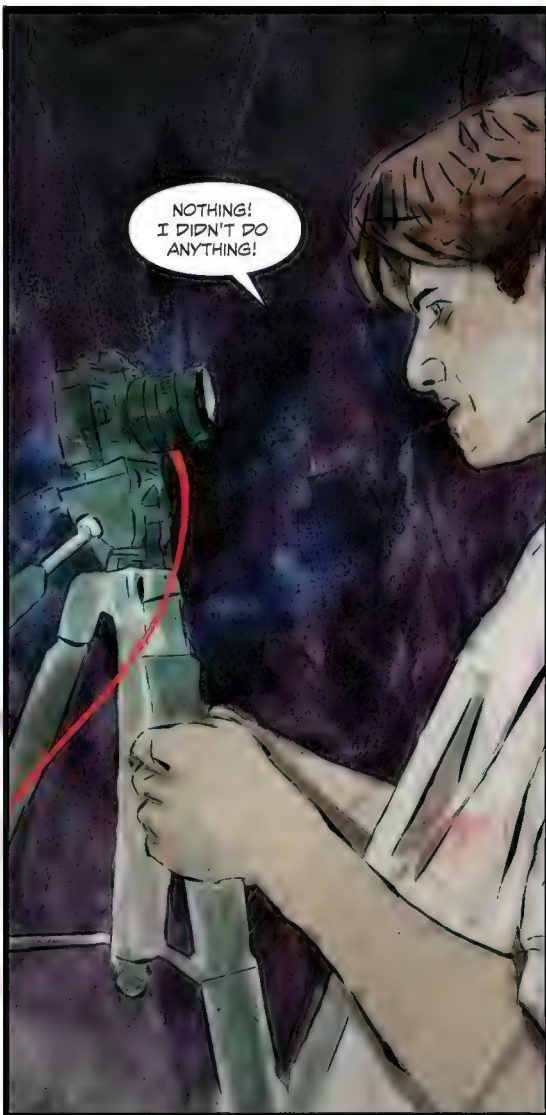
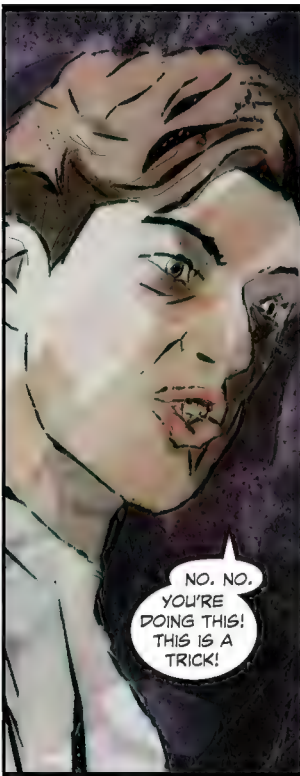
CLICK



OKAY...?



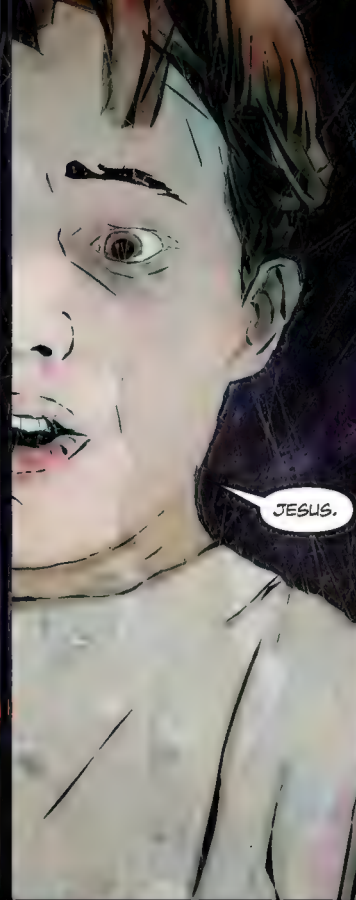






THIS IS
RIDICULOUS.

THIS
ISN'T REAL!
YOU'VE DONE
SOMETHING
WITH THE
CAM--



JESUS.



YOU
SEE HER
NOW, DON'T
YOU?



THIS
CAN'T BE.
NO...NO.

SCARLET...?



NO.
THERE'S
NOTHING
THERE.



AND
THERE'S
NOTHING
FOR ME TO
BE AFRAID
OF.



NOTHING.
NOTHING
THERE.





NGH!!

WE WERE
KIDS! WE USED TO
DO CRUEL THINGS
TO HER ALL THE
TIME.

UGH...



NO, KEITH.
SCARLET DIED. WHAT
HAPPENED? TELL ME
THE TRUTH!

NOTHING, I--



AAAAAAHH!



STOP
HER! PLEASE!
NO MORE--



ARRRGHHH!

SLASH



GAH.

OKAY! OKAY...
SHE WOULDN'T TOUCH
IT. I TRIED TO...AND
SHE WOULDN'T...

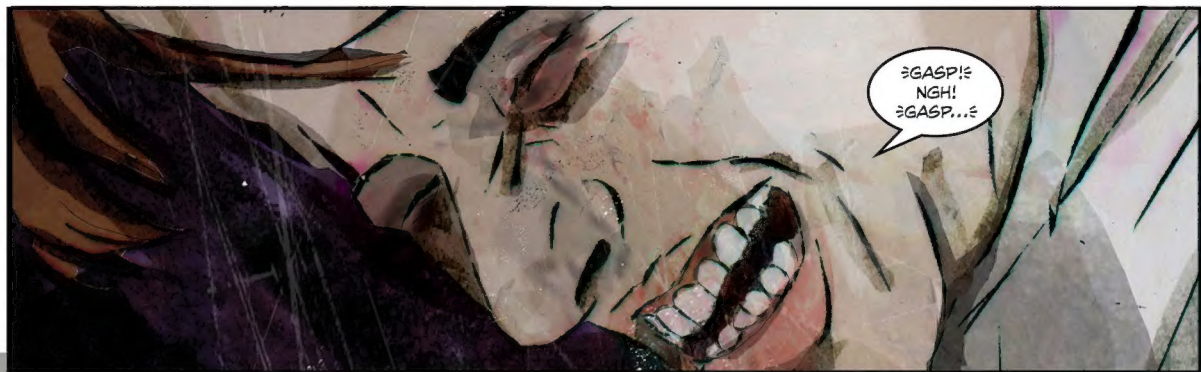
UGH.

...AND THEN
SHE SAID...SHE
SAID, SHE'D TELL
ON ME.

UGH.

TELL
ON ME! YOU LITTLE
BITCH.





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SCOUT COMICS IS ON WHATNOT



WHAT?!
YOU NEED A *SPECIAL*
INVITATION?

HERE
YOU GO...



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